

Listing of Claims:

1-66 (Cancelled)

67. (Currently Amended) A quality control material comprising, one, or more than one substances substance that ~~mimie~~ mimics two, or more than two analytes in a sample selected from the group consisting of plasma, serum, synovial fluid, cerebrospinal fluid, urine, mucus, lymphatic fluid, feces, semen, and any combination thereof, wherein said one, or more than one substance is a synthetic substance.

68. (Cancelled).

69. (Currently Amended) The quality control material of claim 67, wherein one of said two, or more than two analytes is an indicator of hemolysis, wherein said indicator of hemolysis is one of total Hb, oxy-Hb or "total Hb minus met-Hb".

70. (Currently Amended) The quality control material of claim 69, wherein said one, or more than one substances are substance is selected from the group consisting of amaranth, acid fuchsin, basic fuchsin, ponceau S, chromotrope 2R, phenol red, crystal ponceau, methyl orange, ~~a Hb-based blood substitute, cyanmet-Hb,~~ and a polymer.

71-78 (Cancelled).

79. (Currently Amended) The quality control material of claim 67 wherein said two, or more than two analytes are selected from the group consisting of an indicator of hemolysis, biliverdin, bilirubin, methylene blue, met-Hb, a simulator of turbidity, a blood substitute that is a milky-white emulsion and, a Hb-based blood substitute.

80. (Previously Presented) The quality control material of claim 79 wherein said indicator of hemolysis is selected from the group consisting of total Hb, oxy-Hb and "total Hb minus met-Hb."

81. (Cancelled).

82. (Previously Presented) The quality control material of claim 69, wherein said indicator of hemolysis is selected from the group consisting of total-Hb and oxy-Hb, wherein said oxy-Hb accounts for about 95% of total Hb, or said total-Hb comprises about 95% oxy-Hb.

83 - 97 (Cancelled).

98. (Currently Amended). The quality control material of claim 67, wherein said one, or more than one substances substance exhibits one, or more than one negative slope in the absorbance spectrum for a continuous spectral segment of about 5 nm to about 400 nm, within the wavelength range of about 450 nm to about 3000 nm.

99. (Currently Amended) The quality control material of claim 67, wherein said two, or more than two analytes produce absorbances within the wavelength range of about 450nm to about 3000nm.

100. (Currently Amended) The quality control material of claim 67, wherein said one, or more than one substances are substance is selected from the group consisting of methyl orange, phenol red, basic fuchsin, acid fuchsin, crystal ponceau, amaranth, ponceau S, chromotrope 2R, malachite green, brilliant green, toluidine blue O, evans blue, methylene blue, crystal violet, copper sulfate, ~~carboxy-Hb~~, ~~eyanmet-Hb~~, ~~a lipid emulsion~~, ~~a blood substitute that is a milky-white emulsion~~, ~~a Hb-based blood substitute~~, a polymer, and any combination thereof.

101. (Cancelled).